

CENTRAL AFRICA

AI Index: AFR 02/04/97

Network: EXTRA-03/97

Pages: 1

Date: 14 January 1997

Title: Burundi/Tanzania: Refoulement /extrajudicial executions /fear of refoulement /fear for safety: Burundi refugees

Abstract: There is grave concern at the extrajudicial execution of 122 of the 126 Burundi refugees forcibly returned from Tanzania on 10 January 1997 and shot by Burundi government soldiers the same day. The killings heighten fears for the safety of other Burundi refugees in Tanzania who may face refoulement, in the absence of any safeguards.

Keywords: BURUNDI / EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTION / MASS KILLING / REFOULEMENT / REFUGEES / TANZANIA / TORTURE/ILLEGAL-TREATMENT /

CAMEROON

AI Index: AFR 17/01/97

Network: UA-250/96

Pages: 1

Date: 14 January 1997

Title: Cameroon: Further information on prisoner of conscience /fear of further POCs

Abstract: Evariste Menouga, Peter William Mandio, Daniel Atangana: Peter William Mandio was released without charge on 16 December 1996. Evariste Menouga was released without charge on 19 December 1996. Daniel Atangana was also released without charge on 29 December 1996. Amnesty International remains concerned that these men were arbitrarily arrested and held in unlawfully prolonged detention without charge in what appears to have been an attempt to inhibit criticism of the government.

Keywords: CENSORSHIP / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / EDITORS / JOURNALISTS / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / RELEASE /

CAMEROON

AI Index: AFR 17/02/97

Network: UA-250/96

Pages: 1

Date: 23 January 1997

Title: Cameroon: Further information on prisoner of conscience /fear of further POCs: Eyoum Nganguz

Abstract: Eyoum Nganguz, a journalist working for the independent *Le Messager* newspaper, was arrested in Douala on 22 January 1997 and is currently being detained by the police. There is concern that his arrest may be part of the pattern of arrest and imprisonment of journalists in Cameroon for exercising their right to freedom of expression, and that he may be a prisoner of conscience.

Keywords: CENSORSHIP / JOURNALISTS / POSSIBLE POC /

COMOROS

AI Index: AFR 21/01/97
Network: EXTR-A-01/97
Pages: 1
Date: 6 January 1997

Title: Comoros: Death penalty /legal concern

Abstract: Said Ali Mohamed, Youssouf Hamadi and Mohamed Youssouf: The three men named above have been convicted of murder and sentenced to death. The sentences follow a recent statement by President Mohamed Taki Abdoukarim announcing a crackdown on murderers, and AI fears that the three men are at risk of imminent execution.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE /

COMOROS

AI Index: AFR 21/02/97
Network: EXTR-A-149/96
Pages: 1
Date: 13 January 1997

Title: Comoros: Further information on death penalty /legal concern

Abstract: M Rodin, M Mohamed Sahali, M Ali Machallah and one other (name unknown); Ali Youssouf: Saidali Mohamed, alias "Rodin", was sentenced to death on 31 December 1996 and is the subject of UAI 01/97 (AFR 21/01/97, 6 January 1997). Mohamed Sahali and Ali Machallah are now known not to have been sentenced to death. There is no new information concerning the other unnamed person.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE /

COTE D'IVOIRE **AI Index:** AFR 31/01/97

Network: UAI-301/96
Pages: 1
Date: 14 January 1997

Title: Cote d'Ivoire: Further information on legal concern /fear of ill-treatment

Abstract: Picas Damang, Charles Ble Goudé, Souleymane Kamaraté, Sylvanus Goré: On 24 December 1996 the four leaders of the Fédération étudiante et scolaire de Côte d'Ivoire (FESCI, Ivorian Federation of Student and School Pupils) named above, were transferred to the main prison in Abidjan, la Maison d'arrêt d'Abidjan. Details of their treatment while held incommunicado are not yet known. On 7 January 1997 Picas Damang, Charles Ble Goudé and Sylvanus Goré were sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and are considered to be prisoners of conscience. Souleymane Kamaraté was acquitted.

Keywords: BANNING / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / RELEASE / STUDENTS /

KENYA

AI Index: AFR 32/05/97

Network: EXTRA-191/96

Pages: 1

Date: 7 January 1997

Title: Kenya: Further information on health concern /prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Koigi wa Wamwera (47) human rights activist, former political prisoner, former member of parliament, journalist; Charles Kuria Wamwera, former political prisoner; GG Njuguna Ngengi, councillor for Molo, farmer: There is increasing concern for the health of prisoner of conscience GG Njuguna Ngengi who has non-insulin dependent diabetes and hypertension. His physical condition has deteriorated and he is suffering from severe chest pains. He is due to be transferred today (7 January) to Kenyatta Hospital for treatment. There remains concern that neither GG Njuguna Ngengi nor fellow prisoner of conscience Charles Kuria Wamwera have been receiving their medically prescribed drugs.

Keywords: FARMERS / ILL-HEALTH / LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES / MEDICAL TREATMENT / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE /

KENYA

AI Index: AFR 32/06/97

Network: EXTRA-191/96

Pages: 1

Date: 14 January 1997

Title: Kenya: Further information on health concern /prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Charles Kuria Wamwera, former political prisoner; GG Njuguna Ngengi, councillor for Molo, farmer: On 13 January 1997, the above named prisoners of conscience were released on bail pending appeal and with a restriction regarding communication with the press. They are now in hospital receiving treatment.

Keywords: CONDITIONAL RELEASE / FARMERS / ILL-HEALTH / LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES / MEDICAL TREATMENT / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE /

MAURITANIA

AI Index: AFR 38/01/97

Network: UA-26/97

Pages: 1

Date: 27 January 1997

Title: Mauritania: Fear of ill-treatment /possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Messoud Ould Boukhair, Mohammed El Ould Ismael, Abdallahi Ould Iyahi, Hamoud Ould Abdi, El Kory Ould Hmeity: On 22 January 1997 three leading opposition political party members, a member of the ruling party and a former trade union leader were arrested in Nouakchott. All five have been accused of having made political contacts with Libya, but no charges are known to have been brought against them. It is believed that they may have been detained for their high profile advocacy for an end to the practice of slavery in Mauritania. There are fears that they may be ill-treated in incommunicado detention, and that they may also be prisoners of conscience.

Keywords: FORCED LABOUR / HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POLITICIANS / POSSIBLE DOC / TRADE UNIONISTS /

NIGER

AI Index: AFR 43/01/97

Network: UA-19/97

Pages: 1

Date: 17 January 1997

Title: Niger: Legal concern /fear of ill-treatment /probable prisoners of conscience

Abstract: At least 100 members and supporters of the Front pour la restauration et la defense de la democratie (FRDD), Front for the Restoration and Defense of Democracy, a coalition of eight opposition parties, including: Mahamane Ousmane, former President, leader of the CDS party, Mahamadou Issoufou, former President of the National Assembly, leader of the PND party, Mamadou Tandja, leader of the MNSD party: At least 100 people arrested on 11 January 1997 when security forces broke up a peaceful demonstration, are being held incommunicado and without charge. There is concern they may face torture or ill-treatment.

Keywords: BANNING / DEMONSTRATIONS / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / MASS ARREST / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POLITICIANS / POSSIBLE POC /

NIGERIA

AI Index: AFR 44/01/97

Network: UA-04/97

Pages: 1

Date: 8 January 1997

Title: Nigeria: Fear of ill-treatment /possible prisoner of conscience: Godwin Agbroko

Abstract: Godwin Agbroko, aged about 40, editor of The Week news magazine and former prisoner of conscience, was arrested on 18 December 1996 by officers of the State Security Service, and has been detained incommunicado without charge or trial since that time. It is believed his detention is in connection with a recent article in The Week about a dispute between senior military officers.

Keywords: DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / EDITORS / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / POSSIBLE POC /

NIGERIA

AI Index: AFR 44/02/97

Network: UA-11/97

Pages: 1

Date: 14 January 1997

Title: Nigeria: Fear of ill-treatment /possible prisoner of conscience: Chief Olu Falae

Abstract: Chief Olu Falae, aged 59, former Secretary to the Federal Government and Minister of Finance, leading member of the National Democratic Coalition (NADECO) and former prisoner of conscience, was arrested at his home in Akure on 9 January 1997. He has not been charged but has apparently been detained in connection with recent bomb attacks in Lagos. There is concern that he may be a prisoner of conscience, detained solely on account of his non-violent political views, and fears that he may be held in harsh conditions.

Keywords: BOMB ATTACKS / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / POLITICIANS / POSSIBLE POC /

RWANDA

AI Index: AFR 47/01/97

Network: UA-02/97

Pages: 1
Date: 3 January 1997

Title: Rwanda: Death penalty /unfair trial

Abstract: Desgratias Bizimana, former medical assistant, and Egide Gatanazi, former local government administrator: On 3 January 1997 the High Court sentenced the above named to death after finding them guilty of genocide and crimes against humanity committed in 1994. It has been reported that the trials were grossly unfair. The impartiality and independence of many of the judicial officials is questionable, following statements by some judicial and government officials that defendants should not request legal counsel.

Keywords: CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY / DEATH SENTENCE / INDEPENDENCE OF JUDICIARY / TRIALS

RWANDA

AI Index: AFR 47/04/97
Network: UA-02/97
Pages: 1
Date: 13 January 1997

Title: Rwanda: Further information on death penalty /unfair trial

Abstract: Desgratias Bizimana, former medical assistant, Egide Gatanazi, former local government administrator; and new names: Francois Bizumutima, former teacher from Byumba (52), Augustin Ngendahayo, Faustin Niyonzima, Ignace Nsengiyumva (former teachers from Butare): More trials have been taking place for defendants accused of participation in the 1994 genocide and there remains concern that these trials are grossly unfair as the defendants have not been able to obtain lawyers. Sentences against the above named former teachers who are being tried in Byumba and Butare are due to be announced on 17 January.

Keywords: CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY / DEATH SENTENCE / HEALTH WORKERS / INDEPENDENCE OF JUDICIARY / TEACHERS / TRIALS /

RWANDA

AI Index: AFR 47/05/97
Network: UA-02/97
Pages: 1
Date: 20 January 1997

Title: Rwanda: Further information on death penalty /unfair trial

Abstract: Desgratias Bizimana, Egide Gatanazi, Francois Bizumutima, Augustin Ngendahayo, Faustin Niyonzima, Ignace Nsengiyumva: The last four people named above were sentenced to death on 17 January 1997.

Keywords: CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY / DEATH SENTENCE / TEACHERS / TRIALS /

SUDAN

AI Index: AFR 54/01/97
Network: UA-08/97
Pages: 1
Date: 10 January 1997

Title: Sudan: Fear of torture /possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Abdel Nabi Ali Ahmad, former regional governor and university lecturer, Adam Yousif, member of the Ansar religious order, Fadl al-Nur Jabir, senior member of

the Umma Party, Fadlalla Burma Nasir, former government minister, Hashim Awad Abdel Magid, lawyer: Five senior members of the banned Umma Party are reported to have been detained incommunicado without charge or trial in Khartoum. There is concern that they are at risk of torture and ill-treatment and that they may be prisoners of conscience. They were reportedly arrested in late December 1996/early January 1997. It is believed that they are being held as punishment for the political activities in exile of Sadiq al-Mahdi, the leader of the Umma Party, who escaped from Sudan in mid-December 1996.

Keywords: ACADEMICS / BANNING / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / LAWYERS / PHOTOGRAPHS / POLITICIANS / POSSIBLE POC / RELIGIOUS GROUPS - ISLAMIC / RELIGIOUS OFFICIALS - ISLAMIC /

SUDAN

AI Index: AFR 54/02/97

Network: U1-13/97

Pages: 2

Date: 15 January 1997

Title: Sudan: Fear of torture/ill-treatment /possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Omer Mohamed Omer, Mohamed Mahil, Ali Omda Abdel Magid, Mohamed Satti, Mahdi Abdurahman Ali (senior members of the Ansar), Mohamed al-Mahdi, imam of the al-Ansar mosque, Al-Fadl Adam, member of the Umma Party, Ibrahim Ali, office director of the former Prime Minister, Abdel Mahmud Haj Salih, former minister, al-Haj Abdelrahman Abdallah Nugdullah, former minister, Abdel Rasoul al-Nur, former regional governor, Mohamed Ismail al-Azhari, Mustafa Abdel Gadir, lawyer, Bakri Adil, Ali Mahmud Hassangin, lawyer, Nagib Nejm al-Din, doctor: Sixteen men, twelve of them senior members of the Ansar order of Islam and its political counterpart the banned Umma Party, are reported to have been detained without charge or trial in Khartoum in January 1997. They are being held incommunicado and there is concern that they may be prisoners of conscience at risk of torture or ill-treatment.

Keywords: BANNING / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / DOCTORS / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / LAWYERS / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POSSIBLE POC / RE-ARREST / RELIGIOUS GROUPS - ISLAMIC / RELIGIOUS OFFICIALS - ISLAMIC / TRADE UNIONISTS /

SUDAN

AI Index: AFR 54/03/97

Network: U1-20/97

Pages: 1

Date: 21 January 1997

Title: Sudan: Fear of torture /possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Fadella Mohamed Hashim, Yahya Ali Abdalla, Abdel Latif Gimiabi, Bushra Mahdi Bushra, Ismail Adam Ali, Al-Fadl Hamad Diab, Mohamed al-Sil, Baba Shaafi: Amnesty International has received reports that a further eight members of the banned opposition Umma Party have been detained without charge or trial in Khartoum since the beginning of January 1997. There is concern that they are at risk of torture and ill-treatment and that they may be prisoners of conscience.

Keywords: BANNING / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POSSIBLE POC /

SUDAN

AI Index: AFR 54/04/97

Network: U1-21/97

Pages: 1**Date:** 21 January 1997**Title:** Sudan: Fear of torture / possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Mohamed Mahjub Mohamed Ali, Ali Ahmed al-Said, Gamal Abdel Rahman, Mohamed Nourain, Yahya Mudalal, Saudi Darraj, Taha Said Ahmed, Abdalla Malik, Nasr Ali Nasr, Kamil Abdel Rahman al-Sheik, Siddiq Youssif al-Nur, al-Haj Karoum, Mohamed Adam, Awad Al-Karim Mohamed Ahmed, Abdel Karim Karomal, Abdel Aziz al-Rufai, Gaafar, Kouko, Mohamed Abdin Osman, Ali Simat, Sid Ahmed al-Hussain, Hashim Tullub, Dr Osman Sour Kati, Mahdi Abdelrahman Ali: Amnesty International has received reports of a further 24 arrests of alleged political opponents since the beginning of January 1997. They include members of the banned Communist Party and the Democratic Unionist Party and trade unionists. There is concern that they are being held without charge or trial, and may be at risk of torture or ill-treatment. There is also concern that they may be prisoners of conscience.

Keywords: ACCOUNTANTS / BANNING / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / ENGINEERS / LAWYERS / MUSICIANS / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POSSIBLE POC / TRADE UNIONISTS /

SUDAN**AI Index:** AFR 54/05/97**Network:** UA-23/97**Pages:** 1**Date:** 23 January 1997**Title:** Sudan: Fear of torture / possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract: al-Tijani Mustapha, Farouq Kadoda, Mahjoub al-Zubair, al-Hadi Abdel Aziz, Taha Sid Ahmad, Salah Abdel Karim, Adam Madibu, al-Fadi Mahir, Mohamed Sulziman, Abdel Jalil Karoma, Mohamed Dia'a al-Din, Ali Khalifa, Mansour Hassan, Mohamed Babiker Mokhtar, Nur al-Din Medani: The 15 men named above are among scores of alleged government opponents who have been arbitrarily arrested in Khartoum since 13 January 1997. They are being detained without charge or trial, and there is concern that they may be at risk of torture and ill-treatment and that they may be prisoners of conscience.

Keywords: ACADEMICS / ARBITRARY ARREST / BANNING / DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL / ECONOMISTS / LAWYERS / MANAGERS / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POSSIBLE POC / RELIGIOUS OFFICIALS - ISLAMIC / TRADE UNIONISTS /

ZAIRE

AI Index: AFR 62/01/97
Network: EXTRA-08/97
Pages: 1
Date: 22 January 1997

Title: Zaire: Death penalty

Abstract: Captain Kange, Captain Mosolo, Captain Mboko, Second-Lieutenant Otongo, Warrant Officer I Kini, Warrant Officer Swangi, First Sergeant-Major Malibizi, Sergeant Eokongole, Sergeant Bokumu, Sergeant Mulelwa, Corporal Nwasa, Corporal Kikuna, Corporal Ngoma, Corporal Atolo: On 21 January 1997 a court-martial sitting in Kisangani, sentenced the 14 soldiers named above to death. The tribunal found them guilty of cowardice during the recent fighting in eastern Zaire. They are reported to have been represented by legal counsel during the trial, and have been given 24 hours in which to appeal. Further details about the trial are not known.

Keywords: ARMED CONFLICT / DEATH SENTENCE / MILITARY AS VICTIMS / MILITARY TRIBUNALS /

BRAZIL

AI Index: AMR 19/01/97
Network: UA-09/97
Pages: 2
Date: 10 January 1997

Title: Brazil: Fear for safety: 53 members of the Guarani-Kaiowa indigenous community

Abstract: There is concern for the safety of 53 members of the Guarani-Kaiowa indigenous community following an illegal eviction from land they had occupied in Sueiriz, Maracaju municipality, Mato Grosso do Sul state by a group of 50 armed civilians. The armed men have reportedly made explicit threats of violence against the Guarani-Kaiowa, and it is believed that while the land dispute remains unresolved, the 14 Guarani-Kaiowa families are at risk of human rights abuses.

Keywords: ARMED CIVILIANS / FORCED EVICTION / HARASSMENT / INDIGENOUS PEOPLES / LAND PROBLEMS /

BRAZIL

AI Index: AMR 19/02/97
Network: UA-17/97
Pages: 2
Date: 17 January 1997

Title: Brazil: Fear for safety /possible extrajudicial executions

Abstract: Aldemir Ricardo Gomes, Jose Marcos de Holanda Soares (both detained); witnesses to the possible extrajudicial execution of the following five men: Wilson Soares de Souza, Walmir Barbosa da Silva, Jose Alexandre da Silva, Edmilson Jose de Oliveira, Antonio Geronimo da Silva Junior: There is concern for the safety for the safety of Aldemir Ricardo Gomes and Jose Marcos de Holanda Soares who were detained by civil police on 14 January in Cavalheiro, Pernambuco state, in connection with the killing of a civil policeman on 12 January 1997. There is also concern that during a police raid on the neighbourhood of Alto Sao Sebastiao, Cavalheiro, five criminal suspects were killed in circumstances that suggest they may have been extrajudicially executed. There is concern for the safety of witnesses to the raid.

Keywords: POLICE / POSSIBLE EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTION / WITNESSES /

BRAZIL

AI Index: AMR 19/03/97

Network: UA-284/96

Pages: 1

Date: 22 January 1997

Title: Brazil: Further information on fear for safety

Abstract: Katithauru Indians, Ariovaldo Jose dos Santos, FUNAI field worker, Sebastiao Moreira, CIMI Coordinator, Mato Grosso: Amnesty International remains concerned for the safety of Nambikwara Indians in the Sarare area. Although an operation is underway by Federal Police and other government agencies to remove illegal miners and loggers who have invaded the Sarare indigenous reserve, indigenous agencies are concerned that when the Federal Police have left the area, the miners and loggers will simply return, and that without specific measures to protect their safety, the Nambikwara Indians will again be at risk from attacks.

Keywords: ARMED CIVILIANS / INDIGENOUS PEOPLES / LAND PROBLEMS /

COLOMBIA

AI Index: AMR 23/01/97

Network: UA-01/97

Pages: 1

Date: 3 January 1997

Title: Colombia: Fear for safety / "disappearances" / extrajudicial executions: Civilian population of Ituango, department of Antioquia

Abstract: There is a serious concern for the safety of the civilian population of the municipality of Ituango, whose members have been subjected to "disappearances", extrajudicial executions and death threats since the arrival of a paramilitary group in the area on 30 October 1996. Latest reports indicate that more than 120 people have been killed and over 30 "disappeared" by the group Peasant Farmer Self-Defence of Cordoba and Uraba (FCCU).

Keywords: COMMUNITY LEADERS / DISAPPEARANCES / EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTION / HARASSMENT / PARAMILITARIES / PEASANTS /

COLOMBIA

AI Index: AMR 23/02/97

Network: UA-224/96

Pages: 1

Date: 3 January 1997

Title: Colombia: Further information on "disappearance" / apparent extrajudicial executions / fear for safety: Civilian population of the communities of northeastern Chocho

Abstract: Amnesty International remains seriously concerned for the safety of members of the civilian communities in the northeast of the Chocho department where paramilitary groups allied to the security forces continue to operate and commit serious human rights violations. Amongst the information that has been received are details of the killings of Dagoberto Martinez and a man identified only as Francisco, who were reportedly abducted by paramilitary forces and subsequently tortured and killed.

Keywords: DISAPPEARANCES / EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTION / PARAMILITARIES /

COLOMBIA

AI Indx: AMR 25/03/97

Network: UA-05/97

Pages: 2

Date: 9 January 1997

Title: Colombia: Fear for safety /fear of extrajudicial execution

Abstract: Peasant farmers from the municipalities of Remedios, Yondo and Cantagallo, including: Orlando Hurtado, Alberto Orozco, Mareo Tulio Castrillon, Gustavo Echeverry, Alberto Echeverry, Carlos Echeverry, Erlency Portela, Diomedes Playonero (community leaders), Pablo Argumedo Bracamonte, Mayor of Yondo: Since 21 December 1996 a group of 60 masked and armed men have reportedly killed, threatened and tortured residents of the municipality of Puerto Berrios, Antioquia. They have allegedly identified themselves as members of the Autodefensas Campesinas de Puerto Berrio. The paramilitaries are said to be looking for the above named men, peasant farmer leaders, who acted as organizers and spokespersons for the Marcha del Valle del Rio Cimitarra, a peasant farmer protest march in Barrancabermeja between 25 September and 30 October 1996. There is grave concern for their safety.

Keywords: COMMUNITY LEADERS / DEMONSTRATIONS / HARASSMENT / LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES / PEASANTS /

COLOMBIA

AI Indx: AMR 25/04/97

Network: UA-10/97

Pages: 1

Date: 13 January 1997

Title: Colombia: Fear for safety: Angel Augusto Trujillo Sogamoso

Abstract: There is concern for the safety of Angel Augusto Trujillo Sogamoso, a former guerrilla now working with military intelligence, who has publicly denounced serious human rights violations carried out by the security forces in collaboration with paramilitary forces. In the past, witnesses and those who have denounced such links between the security forces and the paramilitaries have frequently been victims themselves of serious human rights violations.

Keywords: HARASSMENT / MILITARY / PARAMILITARIES / WITNESSES /

GUATEMALA

AI Indx: AMR 34/35/96

Network: EXTRA-193/96

Pages: 1

Date: 30 December 1996

Title: Guatemala: Further information on fear of impunity: Amnesty law

Abstract: Amnesty International remains concerned that the final text of the new amnesty law, Ley de Reconciliacion Nacional, which has been approved on 18 December 1996 by the Guatemalan Congress, may mean that those who committed gross human rights violations in the past will remain immune from prosecution.

Keywords: AMNESTIES FOR VIOLATORS / IMPUNITY / LEGISLATION /

MEXICO

AI Index: AMR 41/01/97

Network: UA-14/97

Pages: 1

Date: 15 January 1997

Title: Mexico: Torture /fear of torture /prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Laurencio Guarneros Sandoval, aged 40, Julio Bello Palacios, aged 16, Remigio Ayala, aged 18 (community activists), Carlos Ricardo Ruiz Canada, aged 45, restaurant manager: The four people named above were arrested on 11 January 1997 by members of the judicial police in Yautepéc, Tepoztlán, Morelos state. Julio Bello Palacios was threatened at gunpoint and Laurencio Guarneros Sandoval was tortured and forced to sign a confession of unknown content. They are currently detained in Cuernavaca, Morelos state. The three community activists are members of the Comité de Unidad Tepozteca (CUT), an indigenous peasant organization, and have been active in protesting and promoting the rights of Tepoztlán people. They are believed to be prisoners of conscience.

Keywords: COMMUNITY WORKERS / CONFESSIONS / HARASSMENT / INDIGENOUS PEOPLES / JUVENILES / MANAGERS / POLICE / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / TORTURE/ILLEGAL-TREATMENT

MEXICO

AI Index: AMR 41/02/97

Network: UA-22/97

Pages: 1

Date: 22 January 1997

Title: Mexico: Fear for safety

Abstract: Laura Berenice Medina Bocanegra (f), aged 31, community activist, Luis Fernando Flores Medina, aged 11, her son: On 17 January 1997 Laura Berenice Medina Bocanegra, a community activist from Tepoztlán, was followed to work by two men, who she recognized as being the same two members of the security forces who had followed and attacked her on 12 July 1996, as a result of which she was hospitalized. She has been subject to continuous threats and intimidation, apparently because of her work on behalf of the Tepoztlán community. She now fears for her life and that of her son, and has decided to leave Tepoztlán.

Keywords: ATTACKS / COMMUNITY WORKERS / HARASSMENT / HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS / INDIGENOUS PEOPLES / PHOTOGRAPHS / SURVEILLANCE / WOMEN /

USA

AI Index: AMR 51/02/97

Network: EXTR-1-187/96

Pages: 1

Date: 10 January 1997

Title: USA (Arkansas): Further information on death penalty

Abstract: Paul Ruiz, Earl Denton, Kirt Wainwright: The above three men were executed as scheduled in Arkansas on 8 January 1997.

Keywords: EXECUTION /

MUANGMAI

AI Index: AS-16/02/97

Network: EXTR-1-185/96

Pages: 1**Date:** 23 January 1997**Title:** Myanmar: Further information on prisoners of conscience / fear of ill-treatment

Abstract: Ngi Ngi Naing, Tin Aye, Kyi Kyi Win (f), Ma Thida Mgint (f), Ko Rhin Maung Oo (released); Zaw Win, Tin Hla, Kyaw Soe, Thi Thi Aung (f), Ma Cho (f), Rhin Mar Ue (f), U Rhine Ko Oo (sentenced): Amnesty International has learned that the first five people named above, all National League for Democracy (NLD) youth members, were released on 23 December 1996. On 18 January 1997 the State Law and Order Restoration Council announced that they had sentenced 20 people to seven years' imprisonment for incitement during the December 1996 student demonstrations. There is concern that they may not have received a fair trial, and that the authorities may have used the law to criminalize peaceful opposition activity.

Keywords: BANNING / DEMONSTRATIONS / OPPOSITION POLITICIANS / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / RELEASE / STUDENTS / WOMEN /

CHINA**AI Index:** ASA 17/03/97**Network:** UN-16/97**Pages:** 1**Date:** 17 January 1997**Title:** People's Republic of China: Death penalty: Wang Xizhong

Abstract: Wang Xizhong, company director of a municipal trust, was reportedly sentenced to death by Lianyungang City Intermediate People's Court in Jiangsu province on 16 January 1997 for embezzlement. It is not known if he has appealed against his sentence.

Keywords: BUSINESS PEOPLE / DEATH SENTENCE /

INDIA**AI Index:** ASA 20/01/97**Network:** UN-39/96**Pages:** 1**Date:** 20 January 1997**Title:** India: Further information on death penalty

Abstract: Gantela Vijayavardhana Rao, aged 25, Satuluri Chalapathi Rao, aged 24: On 20 January 1997 the Supreme Court disposed of the petition seeking commutation of the death sentences given to the above men. Justice Anand and Justice Majumdar extended the stay of execution for a further four weeks pending the decision of the President.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE / STAY OF EXECUTION / TRIALS /

INDONESIA**AI Index:** ASA 21/01/97**Network:** UN-06/97**Pages:** 2**Date:** 8 January 1997**Title:** Indonesia: Fear of torture

Abstract: Baltasar Sth Belo (20), Jose Maria Geronimo (32), Joao Budiono C Moraes (19), Gregorio Sequeira Bento (16), Luis Afonso (22), Abel Fernandes (27), Armando C Soares (18), Bobby Xavier (23): At least eight, and possibly 13, East Timorese men have been arrested in the aftermath of two violent incidents in the East Timorese capital Dili, following the return of Bishop Carlos Belo. There is concern that the detainees may be tortured or ill-treated in custody. There is no information about the precise reasons for their arrest, but it is believed that they are being denied full access to independent legal counsel.

Keywords: CIVIL UNREST / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / JUVENILES /

INDONESIA

AI Index: ISA 21/02/97

Network: UN-272/96

Pages: 1

Date: 16 January 1997

Title: Indonesia: Further information on possible "disappearance" /fear for safety

Abstract: Antonio da Silva Monteiro (29), Paulo da Costa (17), Armindo da Silva (31), Armindo Monteiro (22), Jose Monteiro (31), Jose da Silva, Chiquito da Silva, Aquilés da Silva, Gilberto da Silva, Francisco da Silva (name previously unknown): Amnesty International has learned that the above 10 East Timorese men who it was feared had "disappeared", are now believed to be safe. According to reports, seven men were arrested in Waihulag, Viqueque district on 15 November, but all have now been released. It is not known if they were ill-treated while in custody.

Keywords: JUVENILES / RELEASE /

SOUTH KOREA

AI Index: ISA 25/03/97

Network: EXTR-02/97

Pages: 2

Date: 9 January 1997

Title: South Korea: Fear of arrest as prisoners of conscience /fear of mass ill-treatment: threatened arrests of trade union leaders as protests continue

Abstract: Kwon Young-kil, President of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU), Baek Suk-bum, KCTU official, Heo Young-ku, KCTU official, Lee Young-hee, Chairperson of Hyundai Trade Union Federation, Park Moon-jin, President of Korean Federation of Hospital Workers Unions, Chang Kap-deok, President of Hyundai Motor Union, and at least 14 other trade union leaders: At least 20 trade union leaders are at risk of arrest and imprisonment for the non-violent exercise of their rights to freedom of expression and association, following several weeks of protests against new labour and security legislation.

Keywords: BANNING / LEGISLATION / STRIKES / TRADE UNIONISTS /

SOUTH KOREA

AI Index: ISA 25/03/97

Network: EXTR-02/97

Pages: 2

Date: 16 January 1997

Title:South Korea: Further information on fear of arrest as prisoners of conscience /fear of mass ill-treatment: At least five trade union leaders arrested, 16 others under threat of imminent arrest

Abstract:Kim Byung-soo, Oh Hyung-keun, Chu In-sang, Chu Ki-seung and Kim Joong-il: These five provincial leaders of the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU) were arrested between 11 and 16 January for organizing "illegal" strike action. It is not known whether additional charges of violence against four of them have been substantiated. Mass protests have resulted in outbreaks of violence between demonstrators and riot police. Sixteen other leaders of the KCTU face imminent arrest, seven of whom are currently taking refuge at Myongdong Cathedral in Seoul. They include former prisoners of conscience KCTU President Kwon Young-kil and Vice Presidents Dan Byung-ho and Kim Young-daeg. Amnesty International opposes the arrest of trade union leaders solely for organizing the recent strike action and protests, which constitutes a violation of their rights to freedom of expression and association.

Keywords:BANNING / CIVIL UNREST / LEGISLATION / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / STRIKES / TRADE UNIONISTS /

SOUTH KOREA

AI Index: ASA 25/07/97

Network: EXTRA-02/97

Pages: 1

Date: 24 January 1997

Title:South Korea: Further information on fear of arrest as prisoners of conscience /fear of mass ill-treatment

Abstract:On 21 January the authorities suspended arrest warrants against 15 trade union leaders and withdrew some 1000 riot police from outside Myongdong Cathedral. Five other leaders who had been arrested were released on 23 January. President Kim Young-sam agreed to reconsider controversial labour and security legislation in discussion at the National Assembly. Amnesty International is urging the government to ensure that any revised legislation is drafted in accordance with international standards on freedom of expression and association. It is also urging the government to take steps to ensure that political suspects detained by the ANSP are protected from human rights violations. There have been reports that 13 political prisoners were ill-treated in Anyang Prison after they went on hunger strike to protest against the new legislation. On 29 December they were reportedly tied up, held in solitary confinement and denied access to their families. This punishment lasted in some cases for longer than a week.

Keywords:HUNGER-STRIKE / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / LEGISLATION / POLITICAL PRISONERS / RELEASE / RESTRAINTS / SOLITARY CONFINEMENT / STRIKES / TRADE UNIONISTS /

MALAYSIA

AI Index: ASA 28/17/96

Network: EXTRA-198/96

Pages: 1

Date: 30 December 1996

Title:Malaysia: Fear of refoulement /fear for safety

Abstract:Mohammad Yasir Yusoff, Zainal Abu Bakar, Taufik Afizal Zainal Joned, Siapul Abdullah, Nikli bin Jusut, Zulkisli bin Rasjid, Busri bin Mulid Junus, Munzir bin Jusuf and others: On 25 December 1996, 40 asylum-seekers from Indonesia's Aceh

province in Sumatra attempted to enter six embassies in the Malaysian capital. According to reported statements of embassy officials, the asylum-seekers were not aggressive and were seeking political asylum, claiming they had been tortured by the Indonesian army because of their links to the separatist Aceh Merdeka Movement and that they would be persecuted if returned to Indonesia. They were also protesting Malaysia's attempts to forcibly return 55 Acehnesse asylum-seekers the previous day.

Keywords:INDONESIA / MINORITIES / REFOULEMENT / REFUGEES /

MALAYSIA

AI Index: ASA 28/01/97

Network: EXTRA-198/96

Pages: 1

Date: 15 January 1997

Title:Malaysia: Further information on fear of refoulement /fear for safety

Abstract:Mohammad Yasir Yusoff, Zainal Abu Bakar, Taufik Afizal Zainal Joned, Siapul Abdullah, Nikli bin Jusut, Zulkisli bin Rasjid, Busri bin Mulid Junus, Munzir bin Jusuf and others: Amnesty International is still concerned for the fate of eight Acehnesse asylum seekers who remain in the Dutch and Swiss Embassies in Kuala Lumpur, having sought political asylum on 25 December 1996. The Malaysian government is refusing to offer assurances that the eight will not be forcibly returned to Indonesia where they risk torture or ill-treatment.

Keywords:INDONESIA / MINORITIES / REFOULEMENT / REFUGEES / SECOND GOVERNMENTS / UNHCR

SRI LANKA

AI Index: ASA 37/01/97

Network: UA-07/97

Pages: 1

Date: 9 January 1997

Title:Sri Lanka: "Disappearance": Thamban Paskaran

Abstract:Thamban Paskaran, aged 26, from Kaithady North, Jaffna district, has not been seen since 10 December 1996, when he failed to return after being asked to report to the Kaithady army camp. The army have told his wife that he escaped from custody that evening.

Keywords:ARMED CONFLICT / DISAPPEARANCES / MILITARY /

ALBANIA

AI Index: EUR 11/01/97

Network: UA-50/96

Pages: 1

Date: 16 January 1997

Title:Albania: Further information on possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract:Sami Mëta, Kristaq Mosko, Timoshenko Pëkmëzi and Tarë Isufi: Sami Mëta and Timoshenko Pëkmëzi were released on 29 December 1996 when President Berisha issued a decree releasing or reducing the sentences of 102 prisoners. Kristaq Mosko was released on 5 November 1996. The current situation of Tarë Isufi is unknown, but it appears that as he was detained under house arrest rather than in prison before his trial, he will have to serve the full year's sentence and will be due for release by the end of February 1997.

Keywords: AMNESTIES / POSSIBLE POC / RELEASE /

DENMARK

AI Index: EUR 18/03/96

Network: EXTRAI-199/96

Pages: 1

Date: 31 December 1996

Title: Denmark: Fear of imminent refoulement (includes correction)

Abstract: Rabah Hamana, Nasima Hamana and child: The above named and their newborn child face imminent and forcible return to Algeria where they would be at serious risk of detention, "disappearance", torture or extrajudicial execution. Their lawyer requested a reopening of the case. However, even if the case is reopened, the family have been informed by the Refugee Appeals Board that they must leave the country while their case is being reconsidered, accordingly they can be sent back at any time to Algeria.

Keywords: ALGERIA / ARMED CONFLICT / CHILDREN / CLERICAL WORKERS / HARASSMENT / REFOULEMENT / REFUGEES / SECOND GOVERNMENTS / WOMEN /

TURKEY

AI Index: EUR 44/02/97

Network: EXTRAI-162/96

Pages: 1

Date: 7 January 1997

Title: Turkey: Further information on prisoner of conscience: Osman Murat Ülke

Abstract: Osman Murat Ülke continues to be tried for his refusal to perform military service. On 19 December he was released by the military court in Ankara, but was immediately rearrested for "continuing to disobey orders". On 27 December 1996 he was again conditionally released by the Eskişehir Military Court after his trial was adjourned. There remains concern that he faces rearrest and possible imprisonment as a prisoner of conscience.

Keywords: CONDITIONAL RELEASE / CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS / PEACE ACTIVISTS / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / REARREST /

TURKEY

AI Index: EUR 44/03/97

Network: EXTRAI-188/96

Pages: 1

Date: 8 January 1997

Title: Turkey: Further information on fear of "disappearance" /fear of torture and new concern: possible extrajudicial executions

Abstract: Ramazan Yazici, aged 36, Hakki Kaya, aged 30, truck driver; and new names: Atilla Korkmaz, supermarket owner, Mahmut Onerari, aged 22, minibus driver, Teyfik Kusun (all Kurds): There is no further information on the whereabouts of Ramazan Yazici or Hakki Kaya since they "disappeared" after being taken into police custody in Diyarbakir in November 1996. Fears for their safety have been heightened by the discovery of the bodies of three young Kurds taken into custody in Diyarbakir during the first half of December 1996. The bodies of Atilla Korkmaz, Mahmut Onerari were found by a main road near Adigaman on 25 December with signs that they had been beaten and shot in the head. The body of Teyfik Kusun was found near Adigaman on 7 January 1997.

Keywords: BUSINESS PEOPLE / DISAPPEARANCES / DRIVERS / MINORITIES / POLICE / POSSIBLE EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTION / UNACKNOWLEDGED DETENTION /

TURKEY

AI Index: EUR 44/04/97

Network: UAI-15/97

Pages: 1

Date: 15 January 1997

Title: Turkey: "Disappearance": Selahattin Gumureu

Abstract: There is grave concern for the safety of Selahattin Gumureu, a 55-year-old cotton trader, who is believed to have been detained on 25 November 1996 and has not been seen since. His "disappearance" followed an incident in the village of Kurucagir in May 1996 when two village guards were killed. According to the villagers, the village guards held Selahattin Gumureu responsible for what happened.

Keywords: CIVIL DEFENCE / DISAPPEARANCES / TRADERS /

TURKEY

AI Index: EUR 44/05/97

Network: EXTRAI-181/96

Pages: 1

Date: 15 January 1997

Title: Turkey: Further information on fear of "disappearance" /fear of torture

Abstract: Sirin Bagram, Kurdish building labourer, aged 17, Ramazan Tekin (note full name) Kurdish farmer, aged 62: There is still no information on the whereabouts of the above named men since they were detained in Demirli (Temiran) village, Diyarbakir province, on 2 November 1996. However, fears for their safety have been heightened by the recent discovery of the bodies of three Kurdish men taken into custody in Diyarbakir between 29 November and 9 December 1996. On 25 December the bodies of Atilla Korkmaz and Mahmut Onerari were found by a main road near Adigaman killed by a shot to the head and showing signs of torture. The body of Teyfik Kusun was found near Adigaman on 7 January 1997.

Keywords: CONSTRUCTION WORKERS / DISAPPEARANCES / EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTION / FARMERS / JUVENILES / MINORITIES / PHOTOGRAPHS /

TURKEY

AI Index: EUR 44/07/97

Network: EXTRA-09/97

Pages: 1

Date: 24 January 1997

Title: Turkey: Fear of torture

Abstract: Radir Satik, Metiz Demirkol: On 23 January 1997 plainclothes officers from the Anti-Terror Branch of Istanbul Police Headquarters raided the Kurdish-owned Romal Publishing House in Istanbul. They confiscated large amounts of equipment and detained the two Kurdish publishers. The prosecutor has given permission for them to be held incommunicado until 31 January and it is feared that they are being subjected to torture.

Keywords: INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / MINORITIES / POLICE / PUBLISHERS /

UKRAINE

AI Index: EUR 50/01/97

Network: UA-280/96

Pages: 1

Date: 9 January 1997

Title: Ukraine: Further information on death penalty / Legal concern: Sergey Vysochansky

Abstract: Amnesty International has received further information from Sergey Vysochansky's lawyer, indicating that there are grounds to believe that Sergey Vysochansky is innocent, and that he was forced to sign a confession of guilt under physical and psychological duress. His death sentence has been upheld by the Supreme Court.

Keywords: CONFESSIONS / DEATH SENTENCE / PHOTOGRAPHS /

KAZAKHSTAN

AI Index: EUR 57/02/97

Network: EXTRA-07/97

Pages: 1

Date: 22 January 1997

Title: Kazakhstan: Fear of imminent execution: Oleg Amiranovich Gorozashvili

Abstract: Oleg Amiranovich Gorozashvili is facing imminent execution after the Clemency Commission turned down his petition for clemency on 25 December 1996. On 22 January he was being transferred to death row in a prison in Almaty, which has facilities to carry out executions, and his execution is expected to be carried out on 24 January. He was sentenced to death by the East Kazakhstan Regional Court for premeditated aggravated murder. There are allegations that after his arrest he was questioned without the presence of a defence lawyer and that he was forced to make a confession.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE /

KAZAKHSTAN

AI Index: EUR 57/03/97

Network: EXTRA-07/97

Pages: 1**Date:** 27 January 1997**Title:** Kazakstan: Further information on fear of imminent execution: Oleg Amiranovich Gorozashvili

Abstract: On 23 January 1997 a representative of the State Investigation Committee of Kazakstan (GSK) gave assurances that Oleg Amiranovich Gorozashvili would not be immediately executed until further information had been received about allegations of judicial error and had not been transferred to the prison in Almaty. However, on 27 January Amnesty International was again informed that he had been transferred to Almaty where his execution is to be carried out. Amnesty International is urging that his execution be stayed pending a full investigation into the alleged violations of judicial procedure and that the President reconsider his decision not to grant clemency.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE /**KYRGYZSTAN****AI Index:** EUR 58/01/97**Network:** UA-151/96**Pages:** 1**Date:** 6 January 1997**Title:** Kyrgyzstan: Further information on fear of imminent execution: Nikolai Sokolov

Abstract: Nikolai Sokolov's death sentence was commuted to 15 years' imprisonment in the second half of December 1996.

Keywords: COMMUTATION /**UZBEKISTAN****AI Index:** EUR 62/02/97**Network:** EXTRA-04/97**Pages:** 1**Date:** 16 January 1997**Title:** Uzbekistan: Fear of imminent execution

Abstract: Jahongir Gofurov, G Kim, Yodgor Toshpulatov: These three men were sentenced to death by Tashkent City Court in two separate trials in 1996 (exact dates unknown), after being found guilty of premeditated aggravated murder. All three are known to have had appeals against their sentences turned down by the Supreme Court, and there is concern that if the President turns down their petition for clemency, they face imminent execution.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE /

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

AI Index: EUR 70/41/96

Network: UN-281/96

Pages: 1

Date: 31 December 1996

Title: Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: Further information on possible prisoners of conscience / legal concern / ill-treatment / health concern / prisoner of conscience: Đejan Bulatovic

Abstract: It is reported that Đejan Bulatovic was released on 30 December 1996 after having served his sentence of 25 days. He has reportedly confirmed allegations that he was ill-treated during his detention at November 29 Street police station in Belgrade.

Keywords: ACTORS / DEMONSTRATIONS / POLICE / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / RELEASE / TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT /

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

AI Index: EUR 70/01/97

Network: UN-25/97

Pages: 2

Date: 24 January 1997

Title: Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: Ill-treatment / possible prisoners of conscience

Abstract: Zoran Simonovic, deputy to federal parliament, Srdjan Nedeljkovic, journalist, and opposition activists and supporters (in Kragujevac); Milan Kaljevic, Vljako Stojeic, Milenko Djukic, Manj Zatezalo and Radisa Savic (in Smederevo); Marko Petrovic (in Kraljevo); Dragan Nikolic (in Jagodina): On 25 January 1997 several opposition officials activists and supporters in a number of towns in Serbia were arrested or beaten by police after the opposition coalition Zajedno (Together) called for a traffic blockade throughout Serbia. Zoran Simonovic was reportedly beaten unconscious and suffered severe concussion.

Keywords: BANNING / DEMONSTRATIONS / DOCTORS / ENGINEERS / JOURNALISTS / PHOTOGRAPHERS / POLICE / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POLITICIANS / POSSIBLE POC / TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT

BAHRAIN

AI Index: MDE 11/01/97

Network: UN-257/96

Pages: 1

Date: 10 January 1997

Title: Bahrain: Further information on fear of torture / legal concern: Ishraq Habib (f), aged 16

Abstract: Amnesty International has learned that Ishraq Habib has been released.

Keywords: JUVENILES / RELEASE / STUDENTS / WOMEN /

EGYPT

AI Index: MDE 12/01/97

Network: UA-282/96

Pages: 1

Date: 7 January 1997

Title: Egypt: Further information on death penalty /torture /legal concern and new concern: death in custody

Abstract: Mostafa Mohammad Mahmoud 'Eissa, Al-Numairy Ramadhan Saggid Ahmad, 'Adel 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Rahman, aged 22, Mounir Mostafa 'Abd al-Hafiz (in absentia), 'Abd al-Hamid Abu 'Aqrah (in absentia): The death sentences against the five people named above have been approved by the Mufti, and have been passed on to the President for ratification. On 6 January 1997 the (Emergency) Supreme State Security Court in Cairo passed sentences of imprisonment on 19 of the remaining 27 defendants in this case. Seven of the remaining defendants were acquitted. One defendant, Gamal Mohammad, died in custody during the course of the trial. Defence lawyers reportedly claimed that the defendants had been tortured, but no investigation into their allegations is known to have been initiated.

Keywords: ARMED CONFLICT / CONFESSIONS / DEATH IN CUSTODY / DEATH SENTENCE / POLITICAL PRISONERS / RELIGIOUS GROUPS - ISLAMIC / TORTURE/ILLEGAL-TREATMENT / TRIALS /

EGYPT

AI Index: MDE 12/03/97

Network: EXTRA-05/97

Pages: 1

Date: 17 January 1997

Title: Egypt: Death penalty: Wa'il Mohammad Ahmad Waziry

Abstract: There is concern that the death sentence handed down by the Alexandria criminal court on 19-year-old labourer Wa'il Mohammad Ahmad Waziry, was upheld on 8 January 1997 by the Court of Cassation. There is further concern that he may have committed the murder of which he was found guilty, before he reached the age of 18. If his death sentence is confirmed he could be executed within the next few weeks.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE / MANUAL WORKERS /

EGYPT

AI Index: MDE 12/04/97

Network: UA-18/97

Pages: 1

Date: 17 January 1997

Title: Egypt: "Disappearance" /fear for the safety: Marwa al-Saggid Metwalli Hafez (f)

Abstract: Amnesty International has received reports that Marwa al-Saggid Metwalli Hafez, an 18-year-old woman who has been missing since mid-1996 has been sighted in al-Qanater al-Khairiya Prison outside Cairo. The prison authorities have denied she is being held and there are fears for her safety.

Keywords: PHOTOGRAPHS / UNACKNOWLEDGED DETENTION / WOMEN /

EGYPT

AI Index: MDE 12/05/97
 Network: EXTRA-06/97
 Pages: 1
 Date: 20 January 1997

Title: Egypt: Death penalty

Abstract: Yasser Fathi Mohammad 'Abd al-Mon'im Fawwaz, 'Arfan Mohammad Hassib al-Kholi, 'Ali Mohammad Ahmad Farhan, Yasser 'Abbas Sulayman: On 19 January 1997 the four men named above were sentenced to death by the Supreme Military Court in Helikstep, east of Cairo. There are fears that they may be executed within weeks if their sentences are upheld. Charges against them had related to acts of political violence.

Keywords: ARMED CONFLICT / DEATH SENTENCE /

EGYPT

AI Index: MDE 12/06/97
 Network: EXTRA-10/97
 Pages: 1
 Date: 28 January 1997

Title: Egypt: Death penalty

Abstract: Ataf Ibrahim Mohammad, Mohammad Saygid Rabi', 'Uwais Mohammad 'Abd al-Gawwad: On 20 January 1997 the Giza criminal court sentenced to death the first two men named above, after finding them guilty of murder. Their sentences have now been ratified by the Mufti. On 21 January the Mufti also ratified the death sentence handed down in 1990 on 'Uwais Mohammad 'Abd al-Gawwad. There are fears that they may be executed within weeks if the President upholds their sentences.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE / MANUAL WORKERS /

IRAN

AI Index: MDE 13/41/96
 Network: EXTRA-115/96
 Pages: 2
 Date: 30 December 1996

Title: Iran: Further information on death penalty / flogging / torture / unfair trial

Abstract: Hedayatollah Zendehtel, 'Abolghasem Majd-'Abkahi (businessmen), 'Alireza Yazdanshenas, former air force officer; and new name Shyda Khoramzadeh Esfahani (f): Amnesty International is extremely concerned that Shyda Khoramzadeh Esfahani is at risk of imminent execution, along with the others in this case. Earlier reports suggested that one of the men may already have been executed.

Keywords: BUSINESS PEOPLE / CORPORAL PUNISHMENT / DEATH SENTENCE / JOURNALISTS / MILITARY AS VICTIMS / PHOTOGRAPHS / RETIRED PEOPLE / WOMEN /

IRAN

AI Index: MDE 13/01/97

Network: EXTRA-115/96

Pages: 1

Date: 6 January 1997

Title: Iran: Further information on death penalty / flogging / torture / unfair trial

Abstract: Hedayatollah Zendejdel, Abolghasem Majd-Abkahi (businessmen), Alireza Yazdanshenas, former air force officer, and Sharyda Khoramzadeh (f): According to press reports, Hedayatollah and Abolghasem Majd-Abkahi were executed on or around 1 January 1997. The reports made no mention of the other two people sentenced to death and there are fears that they remain at risk.

Keywords: BUSINESS PEOPLE / CORPORAL PUNISHMENT / DEATH SENTENCE / EXECUTION / JOURNALISTS / MILITARY AS VICTIMS / PHOTOGRAPHS / RETIRED PEOPLE / WOMEN /

IRAN

AI Index: MDE 13/03/97

Network: UA-266/95

Pages: 1

Date: 9 January 1997

Title: Iran: Further information on fear of torture / legal concern / fear of death penalty

Abstract: Hojjatolislam val muslimin Mohammad Taqi al-Dhakri, Hojjatolislam val muslimin Mohammad Fazl Mohammad al-Saffar, Hojjatolislam Fu'ad Fujian, Mohammad Ghaffari, Hadi Dhakri, Hojjatolislam val muslimin Sayed Morteza Shirazi, Hojjatolislam Mohammad Salih Hedayati, Hojjatolislam Sayed Mehdi Shirazi (brother of Sayed Morteza) and 7 others: Amnesty International has learned that Hojjatolislam val muslimin Mohammad Fazl Mohammad al-Saffar was released on 4 January 1997, and Mohammad Ghaffari was released on 30 October 1996. Hojjatolislam val muslimin Sayed Morteza Shirazi and his brother Sayed Mehdi have been released temporarily. There are fears they may be rearrested, particularly as Sayed Mehdi Shirazi is said to be in ill-health. There is no further information on the other men named above.

Keywords: BUSINESS PEOPLE / CONDITIONAL RELEASE / DEATH PENALTY / ILL-HEALTH / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / POSSIBLE POC / RELEASE / RELIGIOUS OFFICIALS - ISLAMIC / STUDENTS /

IRAN

AI Index: MDE 13/04/97

Network: UA-124/96

Pages: 1

Date: 9 January 1997

Title: Iran: Further information on unacknowledged detention / fear of "disappearance" and new concern: house arrest: Ayatollah Ya'sub al-Din Rastgari

Abstract: Ayatollah Ya'sub al-Din Rastgari was reportedly released from prison on 21 December 1996. Unconfirmed reports, however, suggest he is currently under house arrest in Qom. There is no information about his legal status, but it is feared he may be held under house arrest solely because of his expression of his conscientiously-held beliefs.

Keywords: AGED / HOUSE/TOWN ARREST / PHOTOGRAPHS / POSSIBLE POC / RELIGIOUS OFFICIALS - ISLAMIC /

IRAN

AI Index: MDE 15/05/97

Network: UA-266/95

Pages: 1

Date: 24 January 1997

Title:Iran: Further information on fear of torture /legal concern /fear of death penalty

Abstract:Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Mohammad Taqi al-Dhakri, Hojjatoleslam Fu'ad Fujian, Hadi Dhakri, Hojjatoleslam Mohammad Salih Hedayati and 7 others; and new names: Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Sheikh Mohammad Amin Ghafoori, Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Sayed Hossein Fali and several others: There have been several more arrests of followers of Grand Ayatollah Shirazi in January 1997. They include Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Sheikh Mohammad Amin Ghafoori, a well-known religious figure and writer, together with his wife, and Hojjatoleslam val muslimin Sayed Hossein Fali who is said to have been arrested and tortured on several previous occasions. Their whereabouts are unknown and there are fears that they may be at risk of torture or ill-treatment and that they may be prisoners of conscience.

Keywords:ARBITRARY ARREST / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / POSSIBLE POC / REARREST / RELIGIOUS GROUPS - ISLAMIC / TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT / WOMEN / WRITERS /

ISRAEL/OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

AI Index: MDE 15/02/97

Network: UA-256/96

Pages: 1

Date: 27 January 1997

Title:Israel /South Lebanon: Further information on fear of torture: Dr George Kalim Nakd

Abstract:Dr George Kalim Nakd, a Lebanese surgeon who was held in prison for almost three months by the South Lebanon Army, was released on 25 January 1997. He has reportedly stated that he was never informed of any charges against him, or what the reason was for his arrest on 1 November 1996.

Keywords:DOCTORS / LEBANON / RELEASE /

LEBANON

AI Index: MDE 18/07/96

Network: UA-300/96

Pages: 1

Date: 30 December 1996

Title:Lebanon: Further information on fear of torture /legal concern: members of opposition groups

Abstract:Pierre Attallah, journalist, Antoine Azi, Ghassan Bardawil, Ghassan Haddad, Samir Ghazal, Joseph Ghosn, Zakhia Al-Rossaiji, Charles Roustum, Joseph Touq, Obad Zwein: Ten people remain detained incommunicado, reportedly in the Ministry of Defence, after armed attacks on Syrian targets on 18 December. Arrests were carried out by the military or military intelligence, without arrest warrant. Amnesty International remains concerned that those detained incommunicado may be in danger of torture or ill-treatment.

Keywords: ARBITRARY ARREST / ARMED CONFLICT / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / MASS ARREST / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / TORTURE/IL-TREATMENT /

LEBANON

AI Index: MDE 18/08/96

Network: UN-300/96

Pages: 1

Date: 31 December 1996

Title: Lebanon: Further information on fear of torture / legal concern: members of opposition groups

Abstract: Pierre Attallah, journalist, was charged with inciting religious or ethnic conflict and with making contact with the enemy; Ghassan Bardawil was charged with distributing leaflets and with damaging Lebanon's relations with Syria. Charles Roustum and Obad Zwein are expected to appear before the military court on 31 December 1996. Antoine Azi, Ghassan Haddad, Samir Ghazal, Joseph Ghosn, Zakhia Al-Kossaiji and Joseph Touq were released without bail on 30 December 1996.

Keywords: ARBITRARY ARREST / ARMED CONFLICT / INCOMMUNICADO DETENTION / MASS ARREST / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / RELEASE / TORTURE/IL-TREATMENT /

LEBANON

AI Index: MDE 18/01/97

Network: UN-300/96

Pages: 1

Date: 7 January 1997

Title: Lebanon: Further information on fear of torture / legal concern: members of opposition groups

Abstract: Pierre Attallah, journalist (50), Ghassan Bardawil, Charles Roustum, Obad Zwein: Pierre Attallah was released on bail by the military court in Beirut on 6 January 1997. No date has yet been fixed for his trial. Ghassan Bardawil, who was charged under Article 288 of the Penal Code, was released by the Investigation Judge at the military court. Charles Roustum and Obad Zwein were released on 31 December 1996 without charge.

Keywords: CONDITIONAL RELEASE / JOURNALISTS / RELEASE /

LEBANON

AI Index: MDE 18/03/97

Network: UN-24/97

Pages: 1

Date: 23 January 1997

Title: Lebanon: Death penalty

Abstract: Mounir Salah 'Abboud, Khalid Muhammad Hamad, Ahmad 'Abd al-Karim al-Sa'di, alias Abu Muhjin (all Palestinians), Ahmad Mundhir al-Rasm, Lebanese: On 17 January 1997 the Lebanese Judicial Council sentenced to death Mounir Salah 'Abboud, Khalid Muhammad Hamad and Ahmad Mundhir al-Rasm. There is concern that they may face imminent execution. A fourth man, Ahmad 'Abd al-Karim al-Sa'di, alias Abu Muhjin, was also sentenced to death in absentia. The four men were convicted, together with 16 others, of the murder of Shkikh Nizar al-Halabi in August 1995.

Keywords: DEATH SENTENCE / MINORITIES /

LIBYA

AI Index: MDE 19/02/97

Network: UA-113/94

Pages: 1

Date: 6 January 1997

Title: Libya: Further information on torture / fear of execution

Abstract: Col. Miftah Qarrum al-Wirfali, Major Ramadhan al-'Aghuri, Major Khalil Salam Mohammad al-Jidiq, Col. Mostafa Abu al-Qassim Mas'ud al-Rikli; and new names, Lt-Col. Sa'ad Salih Farag, Major Mostafa Ibhayl al-Firjani, Dr Sa'ad Mishbah al-'Amin al Zubagdi and Sulayman Ghayth Miftah: The eight men named above were executed on 2 January 1997. The Court acquitted six other army officers, including Lt-Col. Mohammad al-Ghul and Flight-Captain Sadeq Shaqluf, and two civilians.

Keywords: CONFESSIONS / ESPIONAGE / EXECUTION / MILITARY AS VICTIMS /

LIBYA

AI Index: MDE 19/03/97

Network: UA-246/96

Pages: 1

Date: 15 January 1997

Title: Libya: Further information on "disappearance" / fear for safety

Abstract: Ibrahim Mohamed Ibrahim Jad, late 20s, Ayman Salim Mohamed Dababieh, engineer, late 20s: Ibrahim Mohamed Ibrahim Jad was released in November 1996 and has returned to the Palestinian camp on the Libya-Egypt border. The fate of Ayman Salim Mohamed Dababieh remains unknown.

Keywords: DISAPPEARANCES / ENGINEERS / MINORITIES / REAPPEARANCE / RELEASE / RELIGIOUS GROUPS - ISLAMIC /

UAE

AI Index: MDE 25/01/97

Network: EXTRA-178/96

Pages: 1

Date: 9 January 1997

Title: United Arab Emirates: Further information on death penalty: John Aquino

Abstract: The death sentence against John Aquino, a 33-year-old Filipino worker, was quashed by the Federal Supreme Court in Abu Dhabi on 28 December 1996. He will now be retried by the Supreme Court.

Keywords: FOREIGN NATIONALS / RETRIALS /

UAE

AI Index: MDE 25/02/97

Network: EXTRA-177/96

Pages: 1

Date: 9 January 1997

Title: United Arab Emirates (UAE): Further information on imminent flogging / prisoner of conscience and new concern: ill-treatment: Elie Dib Ghalib

Abstract: Amnesty International has received reports that Elie Dib Ghalib has been deliberately subjected to food deprivation and solitary confinement. Elie Dib Ghalib is a prisoner of conscience, sentenced to one year's imprisonment and 39 lashes because of his marriage as a Christian to a Muslim woman.

Keywords: BUSINESS PEOPLE / CORPORAL PUNISHMENT / FOREIGN NATIONALS / PHOTOGRAPHS / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / RELIGIOUS GROUPS / RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE / SOLITARY CONFINEMENT / TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT /

TUNISIA

AI Index: MDE 30/01/97

Network: EXTRA-118/95

Pages: 1

Date: 2 January 1997

Title: Tunisia: Further information on legal concern /prisoner of conscience /health concern: Mohamed Mouadda

Abstract: Mohamed Mouadda was released from prison on 30 December 1996, having served 10 months of a prison term of 11 years after an unfair trial before the appeal court in Tunis. His release is reported to be conditional.

Keywords: CONDITIONAL RELEASE / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE /

TUNISIA

AI Index: MDE 30/02/97

Network: EXTRA-71/96

Pages: 1

Date: 2 January 1997

Title: Tunisia: Further information on legal concern /prisoner of conscience /health concern: Khemais Chammari

Abstract: Khemais Chammari was released from prison on 30 December 1996 after serving five months of a five-year sentence, having been accused of "disclosing a national secret to a foreign power" in a trial during which, according to an AI observer, no convincing evidence was produced to substantiate the charges against him. His release is reported to be conditional.

Keywords: CONDITIONAL RELEASE / HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS / OPPOSITION POLITICIANS / PARLIAMENTARIANS / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE /

TUNISIA

AI Index: MDE 30/03/97

Network: UA-03/97

Pages: 1

Date: 7 January 1997

Title: Tunisia: "Disappearance" /fear of torture /possible prisoner of conscience: Moneef Zidi

Abstract: There is grave concern at the "disappearance" in police custody of Moneef Zidi after his arrest on 30 December 1996. He was previously arrested in 1993 and sentenced in absentia to six months' imprisonment, on charges of belonging to the unauthorized Tunisian Workers' Communist Party (PCOT). He had been out on bail awaiting a retrial at the time of his arrest.

Keywords: ARBITRARY ARREST / POLICE / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POSSIBLE POC / UNACKNOWLEDGED DETENTION /

TUNISIA

AI Index: MDE 30/04/97

Network: UA-03/97

Pages: 1

Date: 13 January 1997

Title: Tunisia: Further information on "disappearance" /fear of torture / possible prisoner of conscience: Moneef Zidi

Abstract: Amnesty International has learned that Moneef Zidi, who had "disappeared" after his arrest on 30 December 1996, was released on 9 January 1997. He was reportedly detained in a police station in Nabeul and was tortured and ill-treated during the first days of his detention.

Keywords: POLICE / POLITICAL ACTIVISTS / POSSIBLE POC / REAPPEARANCE / RELEASE / TORTURE/ILL-TREATMENT /

TUNISIA

AI Index: MDE 30/05/97

Network: UA-12/97

Pages: 1

Date: 14 January 1997

Title: Tunisia: "Disappearance" /fear of torture /prisoner of conscience: Amar Amroussia

Abstract: Amar Amroussia, aged 37, a primary school teacher from Gafsa, has been held in secret detention since his arrest on 13 January 1997. The Public Prosecutor in Gabès has denied all knowledge of his case. He is believed to be a prisoner of conscience and there are grave fears for his safety given the continuing practice in Tunisia of subjecting suspected political opposition activists to torture and ill-treatment during secret detention. These fears are heightened by the fact that he is in poor-health, suffering from a broken eardrum and nose for which he was shortly to undergo an operation.

Keywords: DISAPPEARANCES / ILL-HEALTH / PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / TEACHERS /

TUNISIA

AI Index: MDE 30/06/97

Network: UA-12/97

Pages: 1

Date: 16 January 1997

Title: Tunisia: Further information on "disappearance" /fear of torture / prisoner of conscience: Amar Amroussia

Abstract: Amar Amroussia, aged 37, a primary school teacher from Gafsa, was released on 14 January 1997.

Keywords: PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE / REAPPEARANCE / RELEASE / TEACHERS /

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